

A circular stamp with the text "O.I.P.E." at the top, "JC26" at the top right, "JAN 23 2002" in the center, and "PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE" at the bottom.

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

OP/117-01  
PATENT  
#7A/13M  
2-13-02  
OFFICE

Applicant: Timothy D. Evans et al. : Art Unit: 1731  
Application No.: 09/700,475 : Examiner: M. Steve Alvo  
Filed: January 11, 2001 :  
FOR: PEROXIDE, OXYGEN, AND :  
PEROXIDE/OXYGEN :  
BRIGHTENING OF CHEMICAL :  
AND MIXED WASTE PULPS :  
RE  
FER

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO  
OFFICE ACTION MAILED SEPTEMBER 19, 2001

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

1  
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SIR:

In response to the Office Action of September 19, 2001, please amend the above-identified application as follows and reconsider the application in view of the amendments and remarks provided below.

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please replace claims 1, 9 and 20 with the following amended claims:

1                   1. (Amended) A combination of additives for use in a  
2 brightening stage of pulps containing less than 18% lignin, said combination  
3 comprising: an aqueous solution of sodium silicate; an alkali agent added in an  
4 amount sufficient to maintain a pH of said solution at least about 8; and a  
5 magnesium compound which dissociates in said solution to form  $Mg(OH)^+$  cations,  
6 wherein said magnesium compound is added in an amount to achieve, along with